

**Intelligent Systems Research and Development Support 2 (ISRDS-2)**  
**NNA13424845R**  
**DRFP Questions and Answers**

- 1. Reference B.1, Supplies and/or/Services to be Provided; B.3, Cumulative Value for Task Orders and Task Order Ceiling Costs; Draft RFP Paragraph L.9(a)C SBU1(1), Small Business Subcontracting Plan**  
*Paragraph L.9(a)C SBU1(1) requires offerors to include in the proposal a Small Business Subcontracting Plan as required by FAR clause 52.219-9 with Alternate II. Among several items, this FAR clause with Alternate II requires "Proposal submitted in response to this solicitation shall include a subcontracting plan ... with a separate part for the basic contract and separate parts for each option (if any)."*  
Paragraph B.1 specifies a Base Period, Option Period 1, and Option Period 2. However, Paragraph B.3 only provides a Total Potential IDIQ Value/Maximum quantity. The stated ceiling value of \$240M does not provide a breakdown to this value among the 3 potential periods making distribution of values uncertain.  
**Question:** Will the Government provide a distribution of the \$240M ceiling value identifying the anticipated value for the Base Period, Option Period 1 and Option Period 2?  
**Answer:** The amount of \$240M is the total potential maximum ceiling for IDIQ over the life of the contract. The Government will not provide a distribution of the ceiling value.
- 2. Reference B.1 (c), Second paragraph Page 6**  
*CLINS 02A, 02B, 03A, 03B, 04A, and 04B are Cost Plus Fixed Fee (CPFF) Core Requirements. If the Core Requirement decreases or increases, the Government reserves the right to re-negotiate the CPFF value.*  
**Question:** Can the contractor initiate the re-negotiation of the core requirements? What will the process be for re-negotiating the CPFF value? Recommend that additional language be added to clarify the process?  
**Answer:** The Government has provided the Core requirements. If adjustments are necessary, then the Government will initiate and re-negotiate the CPFF value with the contractor.
- 3. Reference Table B.1-2 Option Periods**  
**Question:** The quantity of CLINS 03B, 04A, and 04B is listed as TBD. Is it the government's intent to order a quantity of one as in the Base Period for these CLINS?  
**Answer:** The Government intends to order a quantity of one (1) for CLINS 03B, 04A and 04B. The table will be corrected in the final RFP.
- 4. Reference B.3, Table B.3-1 Task Order Cumulative Values and Table; B.3-2 Task Orders, Page 7**  
Minimum \$500,000 Total Potential IDIQ Value: \$240,000,000  
**Question:** Table B.3-1 states that the Total Potential IDIQ Value/Maximum Quantity is \$240M and Table B.3-2 states that the Cumulative Amount (not to exceed is \$215M). Please clarify the maximum task order value for the contract?

**Answer: Table B.3-2 will be corrected in the RFP with the following: “Not to exceed \$240M.”**

**5. Reference Table B.3-2 Task Orders**

One heading in Table B.3-2 Task Orders lists a Cumulative Amount of “Not to Exceed \$215M” in the header of the third column.

**Question:** What is the meaning of this statement “the NTE \$215M”?

**Answer: Table B.3-2 will be corrected in the RFP with the following: “Not to exceed \$240M.”**

**6. Reference B.3**

Cumulative Value for task orders and task order ceiling costs

**Question:** Table B.3-1 includes a total potential IDIQ Value of \$240M. Table B.3-2 includes a not-to-exceed value of \$215M. Please clarify the IDIQ maximum value?

**Answer: Table B.3-2 will be corrected in the RFP with the following: “Not to exceed \$240M.”**

**7. Reference B.3**

**Question:** Table B.3.-1 makes reference to Option 6C, though Tables B.1-2 and B.4-2 only refer to items up to 4C. Please clarify the option periods?

**Answer: Table B.3-1 will be corrected in the RFP with the following: “Option 4C”.**

**8. Reference B.4 Limitations on Period of Performance**

The period of performance for issuing task order under this contract is for three (3) years from the effective date of the contract. This contract also includes two 1-year option periods if exercised by the Government. Each individual task order will include its own period of performance. Performance of orders placed within the contract ordering period may extend for up to one year past the end of the ordering period if the Contracting Officer determines that performance of the order cannot reasonably be deferred to any planned follow-on contract.

**Question:** With respect to extending task orders beyond the ordering period, does that include the Management, Core, and the IDIQ? What assumptions should be used to price the Management and Core items with respect to such an eventuality?

**Answer: The Contracting Officer will determine if the Core (management, technical area support, operational support) and the IDIQ need to be extended for up to a year beyond the end of the ordering period. Assume the defined 5-year period of performance without any extensions.**

**9. Reference B.5 Contract Funding Page 8**

**Question:** For purposes of the Limitation of Funds, is the contractor held to funding at the total contract value or CLIN level?

**Answer: Contractor is held to the funding at the CLIN level.**

**10. Reference D.2 NFS 1852.245-74 Identification and Marking of Government Equipment**

a) The Contractor shall identify all equipment to be delivered to the Government using NASA Technical Handbook (NASA-HDBK) 6003B, Application of Data Matrix Identification

Symbols to Aerospace Parts Using Direct Part Marking Methods/Techniques, and NASA Standard (NASA-STD) 6002C, Application Data Matrix Identification Symbols on Aerospace Parts...

**Question:** What is the scope and intent of parts marking according to NASA HBK 6003B and NASA STD 6002C?

**Answer:** The scopes of the NASA Handbook and the NASA Standard apply to all flight hardware and ground support equipment, including, but not limited to, the following: calibration items, critical fasteners, fracture-critical parts, hazard analysis items, and items requiring periodic maintenance.

**11. Reference E.2 NFS 1852.246-72 Material Inspection and Receiving Report (Aug 2003)**

(a) At the time of each delivery to the Government under this contract, the Contractor shall furnish a Material Inspection and Receiving Report (DD Form 250 series) prepared in triplicate, an original and 2 copies. (b) The Contractor shall prepare the DD Form 250 in accordance with NASA FAR....

**Question:** What is the scope of use of DD-250? If contractor provides on-site receiving of material for contract that will ultimately be transferred to Government, does a DD-250 have to be attached to transferred material?

**Answer:** The scope of the DD250 and instructions can be found in the NASA FAR Supplement 1846.6—Material Inspection and Receiving Reports.

**12. Reference F.1 Phase-In Period**

F.1 (a) states that the 60-day phase-in is included in the base period. The SOW paragraph 5.0 identifies that the phase-in is prior to the start of the base contract period.

**Question:** Which is correct?

**Answer:** Phase-in is part of the three year base period.

**13. Reference F.2 (A) Period of Performance and Industry Day Slides**

The 60-day Phase-In shall be included in the Base Period performance period. The performance of the base period shall be for three (3) years from the effective date of the contract.

**Question:** The Industry Day slides showed the start of Phase-In of August 2013 and contract start on October 1, 2013. This conflicts with the information in Section F.2. Also, if the Phase-In is part of the Base Period, will the current contract be extended for 2 months?

**Answer:** Phase-in is part of the three year base period. An extension to the current contract is currently not anticipated.

**14. Reference F.2 Period of Performance**

(a) BASE PERIOD (b) OPTION PERIOD 1 (c) OPTION PERIOD 2

**Question:** If Phase In and Base period of performance begin simultaneously, will period of performance overlap with the incumbent contractor's period of performance? If not, what is acceptable period of time for incoming contractor to hire any incumbent staff?

**Answer:** Phase-in is part of the three year base period which will overlap with the incumbent contractor's period of performance.

15. **Reference F.2 Period of Performance**  
**Question:** Section F.2 (a) states the Base Period will be three (3) years from the effective date of the contract. Section I.2 (a) includes an initial ordering period of two (2) years from the effective date of the contract. Please clarify.  
**Answer:** Section I.2 (a) will be corrected in the RFP to state three years.
16. **Reference F.5 Place of Performance**  
**Question:** What are the “other locations” for the current contract?  
**Answer:** Other locations include field test support and site visits to collaborators and other NASA Centers.
17. **Reference G.7 NSF 1852.245-71 Installation Accountable Government Property (IAGP) (Jan 2011)**  
Paragraph (c) states: “The following property and services are provided if checked...”  
**Question:** There are 11 items listed in this section and none are checked – is this correct? Please clarify.  
**Answer:** The paragraph will be corrected to remove “if checked.”
18. **Reference G.7 Property Listed in Attachment J.1 (a)(4)**  
**Question:** Section G.7, Subparagraph c, is to provide what property and services are government provided; however, none of the items are checked. Please clarify if the government will provide the contractor any additional property or services in addition to property listed in Attachment J.1 (a) (4).  
**Answer:** The paragraph will be corrected to remove “if checked.” Additional property will be provided as needed to perform work.
19. **Reference G.8 NFS 1852.245-73 Financial Reporting of NASA Property in the Custody of Contractors (Jan 2011)**  
Paragraph (a) states “The contractor shall submit annually a NASA Form (NF) 1018, NASA Property in the custody of contractors...”  
**Question:** Is there a list of Government Furnished Property (GFP) in addition to the IAGP list provided in the Draft RFP to be used on the ISRDS II and if so, could the Government provide this list?  
**Answer:** The government furnished property (GFP) and IAGP are the same by reference and will be included as an appendix with the final RFP.
20. **Reference G.11 NFS 1852.245-78 Physical Inventory of Capital Personal Property (Jan 2011)**  
**Question:** In general, is there any other Government Furnished Property required on this contract in addition to the IAGP list contained in the Draft RFP that is subject to FAR 52.245-1 inventory requirements? If so, could the Government provide this list?  
**Answer:** The government furnished property (GFP) and IAGP are the same by reference and will be included as an appendix with the final RFP. Additional property will be provided as needed.
21. **Reference G.12 NFS 1852.245-79 Records and Disposition Reports for Government Property with Potential Historic or Significant Value (Jan 2011)**

(a) In addition to the property record data required by the clause at FAR 52.245-1, Government Property ... (b) The Contractor shall include this information within the item descriptions... (c) The Contractor shall not remove NASA identification or markings from Government property prior to or during disposition ...

**Question:** With respect to government property with potential historic or significant value (section G.12), will NASA identify any items in attachment J.1-4 that are subject to this clause?

**Answer:** The Government will identify potentially historic or significant valued property as needed.

**22. Reference H.2 Task Ordering Procedure, Page 27**

**Question:** What labor categories and labor rates will be used to price a task plan? Will labor categories and labor rates from the cost proposal be included in the resultant contract for use in pricing task plans?

**Answer:** The Government has provided the labor categories, and the Offeror must provide the labor rates. The submitted cost proposals are used for evaluation purposes and are not incorporated in the awarded contract (see J.1 (b) Attachment 2).

**23. Reference H.4 (b) Quarterly Progress Reports**

**Question:** Section H.4, Subparagraph b includes a requirement for a quarterly progress report; however, there does not appear to be a corresponding Contract Data Requirements List (CDRL) contained within Attachment J.1 (a) - Attachment 2. Please clarify if a quarterly progress report will be required.

**Answer:** The Government will not require quarterly progress reports. Section H.4 will be updated to remove the requirement for quarterly reports.

**24. Reference H.13 Severance Pay**

**Question:** Is the intent of H.13 to be applicable to the successful Offeror during phase-out or throughout the contract period of performance?

**Answer:** H.13 is applicable during the performance of the contract as well as during the contractor's phase-out. Please see FAR 31.205-6(g) for further information.

**25. Reference H.14 Organizational Conflicts of Interest, and Limitation on Future Contracting; and Draft RFP Paragraph H.18 NFS 1852.209-71 Limitation on Future Contracting**

Clause H.18 appears to duplicate Clause H.14, and Clause H.14 appears to be more specific with regards to Limitations in Future Subcontracting.

**Question:** Is Clause H.18 necessary since Clause H.14 covers the same requirement?

**Answer:** Clause H.18 has been removed. The RFP will be corrected.

**26. Reference H.14, H.18 NFS 1852.209-71 Limitation of Future Contracting (Dec 1988)**

**Question:** The requirements of NFS 1852.209-71 "Limitation of Future Contracting", is included with both Sections H.14 and H.18. Please clarify if this is the government's intent.

**Answer:** Clause H.18 has been removed. The RFP will be corrected.

- 27. Reference H.19 Incorporation of the Contractor's Proposal**  
FOIA (b)(3) EXEMPTION: Information Specifically Exempted by Other Statutes: Exemption 3 statute prohibits agencies from releasing under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) any proposal "submitted by a contractor in response to the requirements of a solicitation for a competitive proposal," unless that proposal "is set forth or incorporated by reference in a contract entered into between the agency and the contractor that submitted the proposal."  
**Question:** The release of a competitive proposal is exempted under FOIA, (b)(3), unless the proposal is set forth or incorporated by reference in a contract entered into between the agency and the contractor that submitted the proposal. Would NASA consider deleting H.19 to maintain the spirit of the FOIA exemption?  
**Answer:** **The contractor's proposal will be incorporated by reference. The dissemination of contract information in response to a FOIA request is determined by representatives of the NASA FOIA Office, Legal, and the contractor.**
- 28. Reference I.1 FAR 52.204-4**  
**Question:** Is it required to print the cost volume exhibits on double-sided copies? The scale of the text can be difficult to read when pages are printed on both sides. Is it required to print foldouts (ex. 11"x17" sheets) double sided?  
**Answer:** **There is no page limit on the cost proposal. Provide double-sided copies where possible.**
- 29. Reference I.1 FAR 52.252-2 Clauses Incorporated by Reference; L.9 (a) C Small Business Utilization**  
Paragraph L.9 (a)(C) states "This solicitation contains FAR clause 52.219-9 'Small Business Subcontracting Plan with Alternate II'." However, this clause does not appear in Paragraph I.1 nor anywhere in the solicitation except in Section L.  
**Question:** Please clarify.  
**Answer:** **Clause 52.219-9 will be added to the RFP Section I.1.**
- 30. Reference I.1 FAR 52.252-2 Clauses Incorporated by Reference Page 42**  
FAR 52.222 Payments for Overtime Premiums currently states zero.  
**Question:** Does NASA anticipate any overtime during the course of this contract?  
**Answer:** **The Government does not anticipate any overtime. However, this may be addressed during the course of the contract on a case-by-case basis.**
- 31. Reference Section I.2 Ordering, Page 45**  
*Such orders may be issued from date of contract award through two years from the effective date of the contract.*  
**Question:** Should the "two years" be "three years" to match the base period of performance?  
**Answer:** **Section I.2 will be corrected in the RFP with the following: "three years."**
- 32. Reference I.2 (a) Ordering, Page 45**  
"Such orders may be issued from date of contract award through two years from the effective date of the contract."

**Question:** Clarification requested– should this read 'through three years' or is it stating that base year three order must be placed by the end of base year two?

**Answer:** Section I.2 will be corrected in the RFP with the following: “three years.”

**33. Reference I.9 FAR 52.247-67 Submission of Transportation Documents for Audit (Feb 2006)**

(a) The Contractor shall submit to the address identified below, for prepayment audit, transportation documents on which the United States will assume freight charges that were paid--(1) By the Contractor under a cost-reimbursement contract; and (2) By a first-tier subcontractor under a cost-reimbursement subcontract thereunder. (b) Cost-reimbursement Contractors shall only submit for audit those bills of lading with freight shipment charges exceeding \$100. Bills under \$100 shall be retained on-site by the Contractor....

**Question:** For prepayment audit of bills of lading, should original bills of lading or copies be provided? Should the contractor seek preapproval from the CO for shipping charges in excess of \$100 to reduce the time required to audit shipping expenses?

**Answer:** Original bills of lading or copies are sufficient and pre-approval is not needed.

**34. Reference J.1 (a) ARC 52.211-90 List of Documents, Exhibits, and Attachments (FEB 1997); J.1(a) Attachment 2 Contract Data Requirements List (CDRL); L.9(a)A.8 Safety and Health Plan – Written Proposal; M.2.B(a)A.8 Safety and Health Plan – Written Proposal**

The table in Paragraph J.1(a) indicates that the Contractor’s Safety and Health Plan is “To be completed at time of award or by subsequent modification.” However, Section L indicates that offerors must submit a Safety and Health Plan as part of the proposal. Similarly, CDRL Line Item No. 17 states that “The plan is required before contract award as part of the Contractor’s proposal...”

Additionally, Section L.9(a)A.8 and M.2.B(a)A.8 of the Draft RFP appear to give conflicting direction. The requirements to “submit a detailed written safety and health plan” that complies with the cited NPR and APR and “include, at a minimum” only information about the policy and program goals and the management structure do not appear to be requirements that can be simultaneously met in one document.

**Question:** Please clarify if a complete Safety and Health Plan that is fully compliant with NPR 8715.3A and APR 1700.1 is required to be submitted as part of the offeror’s proposal, or if only those requirements specifically enumerated in Section L need to be provided as part of the offeror’s proposal.

Also, please provide guidance as to whether it is acceptable to address Safety and Health goals and management structure in the written proposal and provide a detailed Safety and Health Plan for implementation separately.

**Answer:** The following four plans will not be included in the page count limit: Total Compensation Plan, Organizational Conflicts of Interest Avoidance Plan, Safety and Health Plan and Small Business Utilization Subcontracting Plan. The Safety and Health plan should address the elements identified in Section L.9 (a) A.8.

**35. Reference J1, Page 52**

Table in Section J.1 identifies Safety and Health Plan and Contractor's Small Business Plan to be completed at time of award. However, Section L6 (b) identifies them as being included in initial proposal submission.

**Question:** Please clarify.

**Answer:** The Safety and Health Plan shall be submitted with the Offeror's proposal as instructed in L.9 (a) A.8. The fully compliant plan shall be submitted at the end of Phase-In as instructed in the revised RFP.

**36. Reference J.1 (a) Attachment 1, Draft Statement of Work for ISRDS 2, dated Feb 13, 2013**

Section 5.0 a.)(2) states: "The Phase-In period shall not exceed 60 calendar days prior to the start of the base contract period. The Contractor shall accomplish Phase-In in accordance with the Contract Phase-In Plan, Attachment J-10."

Section F.2(a) states "The 60 day phase-in period shall be included in the base period performance period".

These two sections appear to be contradictory. Also, the Section 5.0 requirement references Attachment J-10 which was not provided in the RFP.

In addition, at the Industry Day, slide 11 stated the 60-day Phase-in is included in the Base, and slide 16 stated Phase-in starts in August with Contract Start in October. These two appear to be contradictory.

**Question:** Would the Government please clarify the Phase-In period of Performance (i.e., if it is included in the base performance period) and the reference to Attachment J-10? Also, would the Government please provide specific dates for Phase-in and Contract start?

**Answer:** Phase-in is part of the three year base period. Phase-in and the start of the contract should begin at least 60 days prior to the end of the current contract. The Government cannot provide an exact date for start of Phase-in/Contract.

**37. Reference J.1 (a) Attachment 1, Draft Statement of Work for ISRDS 2, dated Feb 13, 2013**

Section 5.0 a)(4)ii. states "all Installation Accountable/Government Furnished Property (IAGP) must be inventoried" Further, the IAGP list provided with the Draft RFP shows approximately 1,000 line items of equipment, but does not include detailed property locations (building, room number) necessary to perform the inventory.

**Question (a):** Could the Government provide an update to the IAGP list to include detailed locations for the listed property items?

**Answer:** Government will provide an updated GFP/IAGP listing at the time of award.

**Question (b):** Does the IAGP have electronic bar-code tags?

**Answer:** Yes, all NASA property have government bar-code tags.

**38. Reference J.1 (a) Attachment 1, Draft Statement of Work, Section 2.0, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> paragraphs (Page 4 of 17).**

**Question:** Based on our reading of the two paragraphs, it seems that CTOs will only be utilized to support work that falls outside of the Core requirements, i.e. the IDIQ requirements of Section 2.3. Will the Government please clarify how tasks will be allocated for work under the "Core" requirements if not through the issuance of task

orders? It is unclear how tasking will be allocated and controlled if not through individual task orders.

**Answer:** The Core has been identified in the Statement of Work. The IDIQ work will be identified and awarded through CTOs, as necessary. The Core requirements will not be awarded as separate CTOs. At the time of contract award, the Core will be awarded.

**39. Reference J.1 (a) Attachment 2, Contract Data Requirements List (CDRL)**

Line Item No. 19 indicates the Organizational Conflicts of Interest Avoidance Plan “shall address all the requirements identified in Section H, paragraph H.10, Organizational Conflicts of Interest, and Limitation on Future Contracting...” However, it is Section H, paragraph H.14 that is labeled as Organizational Conflicts of Interest, and Limitation on Future Contracting.

**Question:** Please clarify.

**Answer:** Item 19 will be corrected in the CDRL with “H.14.”

**40. Reference J.1 (a) ARC 52.211-90 List of Documents, Exhibits, and Attachments (FEB 1997); J.1(a) Attachment 2 Contract Data Requirements List (CDRL); L.9(a)A.8 Safety and Health Plan – Written Proposal; M.2.B(a)A.8 Safety and Health Plan – Written Proposal**

We have examined all requirements from the ISRDS2 Draft RFP related to Safety and Health whether specifically included in the text of that document, included by reference, or included as requirements in cited sources. While three CDRLs related to Safety and Health are included, there appear to be 12 others that have not yet been added/addressed in the proposal.

**Question:** Please clarify if these are going to be added to the list in the final version of the RFP.

**Answer:** All required documents are listed in the CDRL.

**41. Reference J.1 (a) List of Attachments**

Attachment 8 is identified as the Contractor’s Small Business Subcontracting Plan Goals.

**Question:** What is the format of Attachment 8 and does it have to be included in the proposal? If the Subcontracting Plan includes the goals, does the Offeror have to provide Attachment 8?

**Answer:** Offeror must provide a subcontracting plan, including their goals in response to Section L.9 (a) C.

**42. Reference J.1 (b) Attachment, Page 1**

**Question:** Please provide the education and experience requirement for each level (Levels I, II, III and Levels IV and V) for all Labor Categories provided in Attachment 7.

**Answer:** J.1 (b) Attachment 7 has the labor categories and descriptions.

**43. Reference J.1 (b) Attachment 2—Cost Template Workbook and Attachment 7—Labor Category Descriptions**

**Question:** The labor categories in Exhibit 6 and Exhibit 9 of the cost model don’t agree with the Attachment 7 Labor Category descriptions. Recommend that the cost model be revised to reflect the specific levels of labor categories for the Core Technical Elements.

**Answer:** The Cost Template Workbook will be revised to properly match the labor category descriptions identified in Attachment 7 of the RFP.

**44. Reference J.1 (B) Attachment 2 Cost Template Workbook, Exhibit 9**

**Question:** For pricing purposes does the Core Technical Elements only relate to effort for SOW paragraph 2.1.2 Core Technical Area Support and not 2.1.3 Core Operational Support or 2.2 Core Technology Research Areas? Please clarify?

**Answer:** Exhibit 9 will be corrected to include updated labor categories.

**45. Reference J.1 (b) Attachment 6: Past Performance Questionnaire; L.9(b)B. Reference Information**

Paragraph L.9(b)B. states that "All information requested must concern contracts considered to be relevant in technical requirements, size and complexity..." However, the Past Performance Questionnaire contains no customer-provided technical relevancy information, such as experience in specific ISRDS 2 Statement of Work areas. Also, Past Performance Questionnaire Question 2, pertaining to how the contractor complied with technical and schedule requirements, is oriented towards problems encountered rather than specific types of technical work performed. Similarly, Question 7, pertaining to the type of work supported by the contract, contains a parenthetical example of the level of detail requested that is very high-level and does not call for specifics that relate to the ISRDS 2 Statement of Work.

**Question:** Please consider revising the Past Performance Questionnaire to require contract references to include more specific technical performance information that directly relates to the ISRDS 2 Statement of Work that will thus facilitate evaluation of relevance to the ISRDS2 SOW.

**Answer:** Questionnaire will be modified to gather technical relevance information.

**46. Reference J.1 (b) Attachment 2, Cost Template Workbook; Draft RFP J.1(b) Attachment 7, Labor Categories**

Exhibits 6,9, and 13 use labor category titles that are not consistent with those that appear in the list of labor categories in J.1(b) Attachment 7.

**Question:** Should Offerors change these to reflect those in the list of labor categories, or should the list of labor categories be changed to reflect those used on these exhibits?

**Answer:** The labor categories will be updated to be consistent in the RFP.

**47. Reference J.1 (b) 2 Exhibits 4 and 5 Material Handling/Subcontract Handling**

The Summary of Elements of Cost identifies one line for Material and/or Subcontract Handling.

**Question:** Can the offeror list these two different items on separate lines?

**Answer:** Yes, the Offeror can list the material and/or subcontract handling on separate lines.

**48. Reference J.1 (b) 2 Exhibits 4 and 5 Other Direct Costs (ODCs)**

These exhibits identify handling costs for materials and subcontracts, however the DRFP does not specify these ODC other than small business subcontracting requirements.

There may be routine needs for travel, software, maintenance items, or specialty subcontracts.

**Question:** Would the Government consider supplying plug numbers and descriptions of the ODCs? Providing plug numbers would provide for a consistent evaluation across all Offerors' cost proposals?

**Answer:** The RFP will be revised to provide plug numbers for ODCs.

**49. Reference J.1 (b) 2 Exhibits 6 and 9 and J.1 (b) Attachment 7 Standard Labor Category Titles**

The exhibits 6 and 9 use the term "Junior" to modify Computer Scientist, Research Engineer, and Software Engineer".

**Question:** These Junior Standard Labor Categories are not included on the J.1 (b) Attachment 7. Will the government provide these SLCs or delete the word "Junior" on the exhibits?

**Answer:** The labor categories will be updated to be consistent in the RFP.

**50. Reference J.1 (b) Attachment 7 J.1 (b) 2 Exhibit 9 Standard Labor Categories and Levels**

Attachment 7 includes subcategories called Levels. For example, the Systems Analyst has Level I, II and III. The Senior Systems Analyst has Levels IV and V.

**Question:** In order to obtain equivalent cost proposals from all Offerors, please provide definitions or requirements for these levels and identify which level is intended to be included in the Core Technical Work in Exhibit 9?

**Answer:** The labor categories will be updated to be consistent in the RFP.

**51. Reference J.1 (b) Attachment 7, J.1 (b) 2 Exhibit 9 Attachment 7 and the Core Technical Elements Pricing Exhibit**

Exhibit 9 does not include all of the Standard Labor Categories listed on Attachment 7

**Question:** Was this intentional? If not all of the labor categories are needed for the Core Technical requirements, where does the Offeror include rates for the additional Standard Labor Categories?

**Answer:** The labor categories will be updated to be consistent in the RFP.

**52. Reference J.1 (b) 2 Exhibit 16 Incumbency Assumptions**

This form has several choices for Labor rates and Seniority Rights. The choices are:

☐ Proposing to pay current incumbent labor rates.

☐ Proposing to not pay current incumbent labor rates.

☐ Other

Or

☐ Proposing to maintain seniority rights for fringe purposes.

☐ Proposing to not maintain seniority rights for fringe purposes.

☐ Other

The first two choices listed seem to cover all answers.

**Question:** What is the reason to select Other? If an incumbent is hired at their current salary but with escalation (if appropriate), is that indicative of the first (pay current) or second (not pay current) choice?

**Answer:** The scenario stated in this question is an example that could be classified as "Other."

**53. Reference L.1 II. NASA FAR Supplement**

1852.245-80 Jan 2011 Government Property Management Information (ALT I) (Jan 2011)

**Question:** The solicitation incorporates NFS 1852.245-80 "Government Property Management Information". This clause requires offerors to provide information with regards to its government property system; however, Section L does not dictate what proposal component the information should be provided within. It is recommended the information be included as part of the Cover Letter given the information required is specific to the offeror and may vary in terms of type and volume of data from company to company.

**Answer:** It is only a solicitation provision and not an evaluation criterion. The Offeror shall address this contract clause in the cover letter. The RFP has been revised to add this requirement.

**54. Reference L.1 FAR 52.252-1 Solicitation Provisions Incorporated by Reference (FEB 1998); L.9 (a) A.7 Total Compensation Plan – Written Proposal**

Paragraph L.9(a)A.7 states "in accordance with NFS provision 1852.231-71, 'Determination of Compensation Reasonableness,' and FAR provision 52.222-46 'Evaluation of Compensation for Professional Employees.'" However, while NFS provision 1852.231-71 is included in L.1, and FAR provision 52.222-46 is not.

**Question:** Please clarify.

**Answer:** The FAR provision will be added to Section L.1 in the RFP.

**55. Reference L.6 (B)(1) AND (5), PAGE 77 & 78**

*(5) One electronic copy of each volume shall be submitted (in addition to the hard copies specified in (b)(1) above) in PDF (Portable Document Format). Submissions shall consist of a total of five (5) CDs or USB sticks (one for each volume, one for the cover letter and one for the sealed oral presentation as described in Section L.6).*

**Question:** The table in (b)(1) states that "2" Electronic copies of the Oral Presentation should be submitted and (b)(5) states that "1" Electronic copy of each volume is to be submitted. Please clarify the requirement for the Oral Presentation. Also, the description of the five CDs does not match the table in (b)(1).?

**Answer:** The RFP will require 2 electronic copies (CD or USB Stick), each containing cover letter, Volumes 1 through 3, and oral presentation. Section L.6 (b) (1) and L.6 (b) (1) (5) will be changed for clarification.

**56. Reference L.6 (b) (1)**

**Question:** Section L.6(b)(1) requires two (2) electronic copies of the Cover Letter and Oral Presentation; however, with regards to electronic copies, subparagraph (b)(5) requires "one for the cover letter and one for the sealed oral presentation". Please clarify how many electronic copies are required for these proposal components.

**Answer:** The RFP will require 2 electronic copies (CD or USB Stick), each containing cover letter, Volumes 1 through 3, and oral presentation. Section L.6 (b) (1) and L.6 (b) (1) (5) will be changed for clarification.

57. **Reference L.6 (b)(2) Proposal Preparation – General Instructions**  
The seventh bullet in this Paragraph states “H.14 ‘Incorporation of the Contractor’s Proposal...”  
**Question:** Should this reference instead be “H.19 Incorporation of the Contractor’s Proposal”?  
**Answer:** The reference has been corrected to H.18.
58. **Reference L.6 (b)(4), Page 78**  
**Question:** Please elaborate on the content of a “cross-reference sheet” that is to be included in each volume. Is it simply a table of content for the other volumes or something else?  
**Answer:** In cases where specific responses to evaluation criteria are addressed across different volumes, a cross-reference sheet may be included. The RFP will be updated accordingly.
59. **Reference L.7 Proposal Page Limits**  
Subparagraph c. indicates that “Title pages, Table of Contents...” are excluded from the page counts.  
**Question:** Are a Title slide and a Table of Contents slide for the Orals Presentation excluded from the limit of 50 slides prescribed in Subparagraph a?  
**Answer:** Title slides and table of content slides are not included in the slide count.
60. **Reference L.7 (a) Proposal Page Limitations**  
**Question:** Because only large businesses are required to submit a small business plan, will the Government exclude the Volume I Factor C, Small Business Utilization, Subcontracting Plan from the page limitations for the written portion of Mission Suitability?  
**Answer:** Small Business Utilization Subcontracting Plan will be excluded from the page limit. This will be corrected in the RFP.
61. **Reference L.7 (a) and L.9 (a) 6. Proposal Page Limitations and Total Compensation Plan**  
The Total Compensation Plan has specific requirements per L.9 (a) 6 including the flow down requirement to subcontractors with an anticipated contract value greater than 10% of the prime contract value  
**Question:** To meet the requirements of L.9 and include required plans from some subcontractors, would the Government exclude this plan from the page limitations for Mission Suitability?  
**Answer:** The Total Compensation Plan will be excluded from the page limit. This will be corrected in the RFP.
62. **Reference L.7.(b) Page Limitations & L.8 – Oral Presentations**  
**Question:** Regarding RFP instructions for the Management Oral Presentations: will the margin requirements for the written submissions (i.e., one inch on all sides) apply to the oral presentation material too?

**Answer: The margin requirement does not apply to oral presentation materials.**

**63. Reference Section L.7(b), Page 80**

**Question:** What is the font size restriction for Tables?

**Answer: Font size restriction for tables will be no smaller than Arial font, 10 point. This will be corrected in the RFP.**

**64. Reference L.7.(c) – Page Exclusions**

**Question:** For the Management Oral Presentation, please confirm that title page, table of contents, cross-referencing matrix, blank dividers, and glossaries are excluded from the 50 slide limit.

**Answer: Title page, table of contents, cross-referencing matrix, blank dividers, and glossaries will be excluded from the slide limit. This will be corrected in the RFP.**

**65. Reference L.7**

Proposal Page Limitations, Proposal Component, A. Management Approach, Safety and Health Plan (Written Proposal)

**Question:** The Total Compensation Plan, OCI Avoidance Plan, and Safety Plan often will vary in size for each bidder, as the complexity of each team's composition, benefits package, OCI posture, or safety program may vary greatly from one bidder to another. These plans are generally not included in the overall page count. Will the government consider removing these plans from the Mission Suitability Volume page count?

**Answer: The following four plans will not be included in the page count limit: Total Compensation Plan, Organizational Conflicts of Interest Avoidance Plan, Safety and Health Plan and Small Business Utilization Subcontracting Plan. The Safety and Health plan should address the elements identified in Section L.9 (a) A.8.**

**66. Reference L.7**

A written page is defined as one side of a sheet....

**Question:** Please confirm that the Excel spreadsheets required in Volume III, Cost Proposal, do not have to meet the Arial 12 point requirement or the 1" margin requirement.

**Answer: The cost proposal spreadsheets do not have the 12-point font nor margin requirement.**

**67. Reference L.8 Instructions For Mission Suitability Oral Presentations**

(h) The length of the presentation shall be no more than 70 minutes. The Government may ask for clarification at the conclusion of presentation, which shall not count against the time limit. The format is ....

**Question:** In Section H - does the government plan to clarify simply what was in the orals presentation or information from the entire proposal?

**Answer: The government will only ask for clarification pertaining to the oral presentation.**

**68. Reference L.8 (b), Page 81**

**Question:** Can the oral presentation document be provided as a Power Point document instead of PDF? Power Point would provide an easier presentation format during orals.

**Answer:** The Oral presentation must be presented from the submitted PDF.

69. **Reference L.8 (c), Page 81**

**Question:** Recommend you consider allowing Prime's Corporate Executive be included as one of the participants/attendees at the Oral Presentation. This would demonstrate corporate commitment and make him/her accessible to any proposal clarification requests during the session.

**Answer:** The government will only allow the Program Manager and up to 2 of the Offeror's Key Personnel. Corporate commitment is demonstrated via the mission suitability proposal. No proposal clarifications will be entertained during oral presentations.

70. **Reference L.8 (e), Page 81**

States "The date will not be less than 10 days following notification."

**Question:** Is this 10 business or calendar days?

**Answer:** The requirement should be 10 business days. This will be corrected in the RFP.

71. **Reference L.8 (f), Page 82**

Paragraph references "Oral Technical Presentation".

**Question:** Since the orals consist of only management approach elements, is the reference to Technical appropriate? If so, how?

**Answer:** The word technical will be removed. This will be corrected in the RFP.

72. **Reference L.8 (g), page 82**

**Question:** Please confirm the Government will (vs. may) record the Oral Presentation?

**Answer:** The Government will record the oral presentation. This will be corrected in the RFP.

73. **Reference L.8 (g), page 82**

**Question:** Please confirm that the Government intends to use the verbal portion and recording of the Oral Presentations as a formal element in the evaluation of Mission Suitability?

**Answer:** The oral presentation and recording will be used in the evaluation of Mission Suitability.

74. **Reference L.8 (k), Page 82**

**Question:** During proposal clarification for oral presentation, will the oral team be allowed to caucus if needed after receiving a clarification question from the Government? If so, will that time be counted toward their 5 minutes to answer the clarification question?

**Answer:** The offeror will be allowed to caucus prior to responding to a question and the time will not be counted.

75. **Reference L.9 (a) A. Management Approach (Subfactor); L.7 Proposal Page Limits; J.1(a) Attachment 2, Contract Data Requirements List (CDRL)**

The Total Compensation Plan, OCI Avoidance Plan, Safety and Health Plan, and Small Business Utilization are all included in the page limit for the Mission Suitability written submission. However these plans are mandated by FAR and NRS requirements each of which contain a lengthy list of requirements. Additionally, Section M states, for example, that the Offeror's "Safety and Health Plan will be evaluated for a complete and comprehensive response..." And CRDL Line Item No. 19 indicates the Organizational Conflicts of Interest Avoidance Plan "shall incorporate any previous studies performed, shall thoroughly analyze all organizational conflicts of interest that might arise because the service provider has access to companies' sensitive information and shall establish specific methods to control, mitigate, or eliminate all problems identified."

**Question:** Since these plans are mandated by the FAR/NFS, Section M indicates that they will be evaluated for their completeness and comprehensiveness, and the CDRL requirements specify complete plans are to be provided with the proposal, please consider excluding these four plans from the Mission Suitability written proposal page limit.

**Answer:** The following four plans will not be included in the page count limit: Total Compensation Plan, Organizational Conflicts of Interest Avoidance Plan, Safety and Health Plan and Small Business Utilization Subcontracting Plan. The Safety and Health plan should address the elements identified in Section L.9 (a) A.8.

**76. Reference L.9.(a) A.2 – Key Personnel – Oral Presentation and Written Proposal**

**Question:** The RFP requests the offeror to describe its approach and rationale for proposed key personnel in the oral presentation but then requests the resumes and commitment letter for key management and technical personnel – Implying that key positions are REQUIRED in both management and technical roles. Will the Government consider revising the wording of this requirement from "...and resumes for key management and technical personnel..." to "and provide resumes for all proposed key personnel..."?

**Answer:** This will be corrected in the RFP.

**77. Reference L.9 (a) A.2 Section L, Key Personnel – Written Proposal Page 85**

**Question:** Are company commitment letters counted in the page count allocation?

**Answer:** Company commitment letters are not counted against the page count allocation. Companies are limited to one page per individual per footnote 2 on Page 80.

**78. Reference L.9 (a) 2, Page 85**

Key Personnel section requires submittal of both employee and company (if applicable) letters of commitment

**Question:** Is each letter of commitment for one person limited to 1 page per commitment letter individually (employee and company) or 1 page combined?

**Answer:** Commitment letters are only required of individuals. This will be corrected in the RFP.

**79. Reference L.9 (a) A.3 Foreign Nationals and Immigration Status**

With respect to the phrase "processes for hiring...with various immigration status (H1, J1, green card, etc)."

**Question:** Please identify what the “etc” entails and does the Offeror sponsor the foreign nationals that need to be hired (H1B1)? If an existing foreign national holds a valid visa as an employee of an incumbent company, what happens to the visa and the foreign nationals’ work status if the incumbent company loses the ISRDS 2 competition?

**Answer:** Etc. refers to all other immigration statuses in addition to the ones stated. Offerors are required to demonstrate their understanding of processes for hiring and retaining qualified individuals with various immigration statuses.

**80. Reference L.9.(a).A.5 – Case Study**

**Question:** Please clarify the completion of this 9 month task. Is this task completed after the software system has been integrated into the vehicle system at the USAF lab, tested, and accepted by the USAF?

**Answer:** The Offeror must be able to address the case study as written.

**81. Reference L.9.(a).A.5 – Case Study**

**Question:** Please clarify the information required for the case study proposal, regarding “Implementation and Operational Schedule”. We understand the purpose of the implementation schedule, but we have not identified any requirements that will require our support during the operational phase of this mission. Will there be operational phase support required?

**Answer:** The Offeror must be able to address the case study as written.

**82. Reference L.9 (a) A 5. Case Study**

The case study background specifies “The USAF needs this next generation UAV software system within 9 months”.

**Question:** Does this mean 9 months to deliver it to the USAF, or does it mean 9 months which includes the time for Facility Integration and Test at the USAF Laboratory?

**Answer:** The Offeror must be able to address the case study as written.

**83. Reference L.9 (a) A 5. Case Study**

**Question:** Is the Offeror tasked to deliver a software package that is resident in a single avionics unit? Or are there three separate SW deliveries?

**Answer:** The Offeror must be able to address the case study as written.

**84. Reference L.9 (a) A 5. Case Study**

The case study states that this is “next generation UAV software system”.

**Question:** Is the Offeror’s task to upgrade an existing (e.g. the current UAV software)? Thus, the starting code is what is in use now. Or is the Offeror’s task starting with the requirements as identified in the case study and no existing software?

**Answer:** The Offeror must be able to address the case study as written.

**85. Reference: L. 9 (a) A. 5. Case Study - Written Proposal**

The instructions for the case study include two directions that address elements of cost.

The first: The Offeror’s detailed response to the case study shall address the following: Elements and justification of costs that must be considered (labor hours, ODCs, etc.)

The second: Explain what your approach would be to respond to the requirements with respect to the following (including assumptions and justifications): Cost elements that need to be considered

**Question:** Is the Offeror to identify and justify the types of cost elements, or is the Government requesting a cost estimate?

**Answer:** The Offeror should only identify and justify the types of cost elements.

**86. Reference: L. 9 (a) A. 5. Case Study - Written Proposal**

We are seeking to determine the scope of the software development effort. The size and complexity of the UAV will drive the scope of the software development effort.

1) Larger UAVs (Global Hawk or larger):

- \* Carry larger, more capable (and more expensive) payloads. The payloads can generate enormous amounts of data and can require a conditioned environment to operate.

- \* Have redundant hardware systems that need to be actively managed.

- \* Are airborne for 20+ hours and collect a lot of data.

- \* Are generally ferried to the operations area using commercial traffic air space; thus, adding complexity to meet FAA safety requirements.

2) Smaller UAVs (Predator or smaller):

- \* Carry smaller, less capable payloads.

- \* Have limited or no hardware redundancy.

- \* Have missions that last 8 hours or less.

- \* Are generally transported to the operations area in crates and assembled; thus, avoiding flying in commercial traffic air space and the need to meet FAA safety requirements.

**Question:** Which type of UAV (larger or smaller UAVs) is the Case Study addressing?

**Answer:** The Offeror can make the assumption as to large or small UAV, and then address the Case Study as such.

**87. Reference L.9 (A), A.6 TOTAL COMPENSATION PLAN – WRITTEN PROPOSAL, PAGE 88**

Note, the Offeror shall require all service subcontractors (1) with proposed cost reimbursement or non-competitive fixed-price type subcontracts having a total potential value in excess of \$500,000 and (2) the cumulative value of all their service subcontracts under the proposed prime contract in excess of 10 percent of the prime contract's total potential value, provide as part of their proposals the information identified in (a) through (c) of NFS provision 1852.231-71.

**Question:** a) Does a subcontractor have to meet both criteria in order to be required to submit a TCP?

b) If a subcontractor submits a TCP does it count against the written proposal page count or should they include their TCP in their sealed cost proposal package? Recommend that TCP be removed from the page count in the written proposal. If a separate page count is required for the TCP, explain whether the subcontractors TCP is included in the page count.

**Answer:** The subcontractor must meet both criteria in order to be required to submit a TCP. The TCP is not counted against the proposal page count.

**88. Reference L.9 (a) A.6 – Total Compensation Plan and L.9.A.8 – Safety and Health Plan**

**Question:** Since fully compliant TCP and S&H Plans can be quite long, will the Government consider excluding them from the Page Count for Volume I?

**Answer:** The following four plans will not be included in the page count limit: Total Compensation Plan, Organizational Conflicts of Interest Avoidance Plan, Safety and Health Plan and Small Business Utilization Subcontracting Plan.

**89. Reference L.9 (a)A.6, Page 88**

**Question:** For Major subcontractors, are their Total Compensation Plans to be provided in their sealed Cost Proposal? For those subcontractors below \$1M but above \$500K, where do they submit their Total Compensation Plan since they are not submitting a separate cost volume?

**Answer:** The major subcontractors should submit their TCPs with their proposals. TCPs must be submitted in accordance with NFS 1852.231-71 and FAR 52.222-46.

**90. Reference L.9 (a) A.6 Total Compensation Plan – Written Proposal**

Subparagraph c. appears to duplicate Subparagraph b.

**Question:** Since these appear to include the same requirement, can Subparagraph c. be removed?

**Answer:** Paragraph c will be removed. This will be corrected in the RFP.

**91. Reference L.9 (a) A.6 Total Compensation Plan**

The instructions “b.” and “c.” appear to be redundant

“[b]...including an itemization of the benefits that require employee contributions and the amount of that contribution as a percentage of the total cost of the benefit”

“[c] Identify benefits that require employee contributions and the amount of that contribution as a percentage of the total cost of each benefit.”

**Question:** Should item c. be deleted?

**Answer:** Paragraph c will be removed. This will be corrected in the RFP.

**92. Reference L.9 (a), A.7 ORGANIZATIONAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST AVOIDANCE PLAN, PAGE 88**

**Question:** Recommend that the OCI Plan not be part of the 80 page written proposal page count?

**Answer:** The Organizational Conflicts of Interest Avoidance Plan will not be included in the page count limit.

**93. Reference L.9 (a), A.8 SAFETY AND HEALTH PLAN, PAGE 88**

**Question:** Due to the extensive information that is required to be included in the Safety and Health Plan per NPR 8715.3A and APR 1700.1, recommend that the S&H Plan be removed from the 80 page written proposal page count?

**Answer:** The Safety and Health Plan will not be included in the page count limit.

**94. Reference L.9 (a) A.8 Safety and Health Plan**

On the Ames Website there is a notation:

(<http://servermpo.arc.nasa.gov/Services/CDMSDocs/Centers/ARC/Dirs/APR/APR1700.1.html>) "The Ames Health and Safety Manual is in the process of being revised. As revisions are made, they will appear in the new manual numbered APR 8715.1".

**Question:** Should APR 8715.1 also be listed?

**Answer:** **Until the APR is finalized, it cannot be listed.**

**95. Reference L.9 (a) A.8 Safety and Health Plan**

The instructions require that the Offeror shall submit a detailed safety and health plan including safety items covered in NPR 8715.3A and APR 1700.1. These two documents each include a required outline for a contractor safety and health plan that includes over 30 outline requirements. Furthermore, CDRL Item 17 asks for the Plan to include health and environmental compliance regulations applicable to the contract

**Question:** Would the Government consider revising the instructions to require a written summary of the plan that includes the two items cited as the minimum requirements (the Safety policy and the organization chart) as part of the proposal, and then require that the actual plan be written and submitted during phase in or be due 30 days after contract start? If a summary is not acceptable, would the government exclude the plan from the written page limitations for the proposal?

**Answer:** **The Safety and Health Plan will not be included in the page count limit.**

**96. Reference L.9 (a) A.8, page 88**

**Question:** In order for industry to provide NASA with comprehensive, detailed responses in the critical area of safety, will the Government please consider moving the Safety and Health Plan **outside** of the core 80 written pages of the Mission Suitability Proposal? If that is not possible, will the Government accept a summary version of the Safety and Health Plan?

**Answer:** **The Safety and Health Plan will not be included in the page count limit.**

**97. Reference L.9 (a) B. Technical Understanding – Written Proposal**

Paragraph L.9(a)B states "The Offeror's proposal shall demonstrate its understanding of the requirements of the SOW and specifically address how the work would be accomplished as follows: Approach and management demonstrating an understanding of all of the requirements of the Statement of Work (SOW) and their interrelationships, specifically addressing each of the technical areas of the SOW."

**Question:** Given the limited page count for the written response, we respectfully request that the Government specifically identify by paragraph number the portions of the SOW to be addressed. For example, SOW 5.0, Phase-in/Phase-Out, is redundant to the Management Approach requirement for a Phase-in Plan. Similarly, SOW 2.1.1, Core Management, is more appropriately addressed in the Management Approach subfactor, while SOW 1.0 and 4.0 are informational with no technical requirements. The Government's clarification of this important issue will help all Offerors properly allocate the page count and focus on the technical areas of SOW most important to effective ISRDS-2

performance. We request these clarifications both to the Section L instructions as well as the corresponding language in Section M (page 110).

**Answer: The SOW should be addressed in its entirety.**

**98. Reference L.9 (a) B – Technical Understanding**

The instructions for the Technical Understanding section are ambiguous. The first sentence of bullet 1 (Approach and management demonstrating....) implies that every item referenced in the SOW (i.e. SOW 1.0 through 5.0) must be addressed. However, the second part of the sentence says 'specifically addressing each of the technical areas of the SOW'.

**Question A:** Does this mean that ONLY SOW 2.2 Core Technology Research Areas should be addressed in the Technical Understanding Section?

**Answer: The SOW should be addressed in its entirety.**

**Question B:** If so, in which Section of the proposal should we address the remaining SOW sections? For example, we would expect to address C2.1.1 Core Management as part of our management approach (Oral Presentation).

**Answer: The SOW should be addressed in its entirety.**

**Question C:** To what degree should we discuss SOW 2.3 (IDIQ) in the Technical Understanding section of the proposal since specific IDIQ tasks cannot be anticipated at this time?

**Answer: The SOW should be addressed in its entirety.**

**99. Reference L.9 (a) C. SBU1 Small Business Subcontracting, Subparagraph (vii)**

The Subparagraph instructs the "Offerors shall complete Attachment L-6, Small Business Subcontracting Tables..." However, the table that follows this paragraph is labeled as "Table L-4: Small Business Subcontracting Plan Goals."

**Question:** Should the reference to Attachment L-6 be changed to read Table I-4, or is there an additional table?

**Answer: This will be corrected in the RFP.**

**100. Reference L.9 (a) C. SMALL BUSINESS UTILIZATION, PAGE 89-92**

**Question:** Recommend the Small Business Utilization Subcontracting Plan be eliminated from the Volume 1 80 count page limit due to having to address all the elements required in FAR 52.219-9 and also the Commitment to the Small Business Program.

**Answer: The Small Business Utilization Subcontracting Plan will not be included in the page count limit.**

**101. Reference L.9 (b)(1) Past Performance Proposal (Volume II)**

This Paragraph instructs Offerors to provide "A list of not more than three (3) relevant contracts (including government and industry contracts), each in excess of \$5M, completed no more than five (5) years ago or ongoing, involving related types of effort. These contracts shall demonstrate the Offeror's capabilities to perform this requirement."

**Question:** Since Draft RFP Paragraph B.3, Cumulative Value for Task Orders and Task Order Ceiling Costs, indicates a total potential IDIQ value of approximately \$240M, please consider revising the Past Performance contract reference minimum contract dollar value to an amount that more confidently demonstrates an Offeror's capability to perform the

ISRDS 2 contract. We respectfully recommend that the minimum dollar threshold for relevant contracts be \$10M instead of the currently stated \$5M.

**Answer: Major Subcontractor as defined for Past Performance shall be \$20M over 5 years. This will be corrected in the RFP.**

**102. Reference L.9 (b) Past Performance Proposal Volume II. pages 92 – 93**

**Question:** Please confirm that is acceptable to submit up to three relevant contracts of the Prime offeror, and additionally up to three relevant contracts of each major subcontractor.

**Answer: The Government requires three relevant contracts for the Prime and three relevant contracts for each Major Subcontractor.**

**103. Reference L.9 (B), PAGE 92, SECTION L.9(C)1.F., PAGE 95, SECTION L.9(C)18, PAGE 101 (DEFINITION OF MAJOR SUBCONTRACTOR)**

*(Past performance) For purposes of this solicitation, “major subcontractors” is defined as subcontracting dollars of \$5M or more covering a performance period of five (5) years.*

*(Cost Volume) For cost purposes, Major Subcontractors are defined as those subcontractors providing a total contract value of \$1,000,000.00 for the five year inclusive effort.*

**Exhibit 18, Schedule of Subcontracts:** *This schedule summarizes the activity proposed to be subcontracted and includes all subcontracts that have an aggregate cost of \$1,000,000 or more. These subcontractors are required to submit all applicable cost exhibits and schedules specified in this RFP.*

**Question:** Request clarification of the definition of “major subcontractor” for this proposal.

**Answer: Major Subcontractor as defined for Past Performance shall be \$20M over 5 years. Major Subcontractor as defined for Cost will be \$2M over 5 years. This will be corrected in the RFP.**

**104. Reference L.9 (b)(1) Past Performance Proposal (Volume III)**

This Paragraph instructs Offerors to provide “A list of not more than three (3) relevant contracts (including government and industry contracts), each in excess of \$5M, completed no more than five (5) years ago or ongoing, involving related types of effort.”

**Question:** We respectfully recommend that the performance period of five (5) years for relevant contracts be four (4) years instead of the currently stated five (5) years.

**Answer: The Government will not change the performance period to four (4) years.**

**105. Reference L.9 (b)(1) PAST PERFORMANCE PROPOSAL, PAGE 92**

(1) A list of not more than three (3) relevant contracts (including government and industry contracts), each in excess of \$5M....

**Question:** Is this a total of 3 past performances for the prime and all subcontractors or 3 each for the prime and major subcontractors?

**Answer: The Government requires three relevant contracts for the Prime and three relevant contracts for each Major Subcontractor.**

**106. Reference L.9 (b) (1)**

A list of not more than three (3) relevant contracts (including government and industry contracts), each in excess of \$5M, completed no more than five (5) years ago or on-going, involving related types of effort.

**Question:** In the 20-page Volume II, does the government require 3 past performance citations from each major subcontractor or 3 from the entire team?

**Answer:** The Government requires three relevant contracts for the Prime and three relevant contracts for each Major Subcontractor.

**107. Reference L.9 (b) Past Performance Proposal (Volume II) (4)**

The major areas to be evaluated for the Past Performance factor are Relevant Technical Performance, Contract Management, Corporate Management Responsiveness, and Other Information.

**Question:** Would the Government clarify its intent on parameters of "Corporate Management Responsiveness" and "Other Information"?

**Answer:** The evaluation will be based on L.9 (b)(A) Information Provided by Offerors and Major Subcontractors.

**108. Reference L.9.(b) – Past Performance Proposal (Volume II)**

**Question:** Section L limits the number of Past Performance citations to three. We respectfully suggest that limiting it instead to five would enable offerors to better represent their expertise. The combination of work on ISRDS is unique, representing a wide swath of leading edge capabilities found together only at NASA Ames. Competing companies have these capabilities - but not necessarily concentrated within so few contracts. We feel the government would be better equipped to make its decision with access to a more representative cross-section of capability. We do not request any change in the number of pages allocated.

**Answer:** The Government requires three relevant contracts for the Prime and three relevant contracts for each Major Subcontractor.

**109. Reference L.9 (b) A. Information Provided by Offerors and Major Subcontractors**

This paragraph instructs the offerors to address nine topics. It appears only one of these topics is related to the ISRDS2 SOW, and it requests Type of work supported (e.g., Research...). The instructions do not request information on how the referenced work is comparable in scope and complexity to the ISRDS2 SOW.

**Question:** We respectfully recommend that the instructions be modified to require offerors and major subcontractors to include enough detail on the referenced contract to compare the referenced contract to the ISRDS2 SOW in terms of scope and complexity.

**Answer:** Instructions request sufficient information for the Government to evaluate scope and complexity of past performance.

**110. Reference L.9 (b) B.1. Reference Information**

The Subparagraph instructs the "Each Offeror and major subcontractor shall complete Section 1 of the Past Performance Questionnaire..." However, there is no Section 1 in the Past Performance Questionnaire.

**Question:** Should the reference to Section 1 be changed to read Section A?

**Answer:** This will be corrected in the RFP to be "Sections A and B".

**111. Reference L.9 (b) B.1 (page 94)**

**Question:** The RFP states "Each Offeror and major subcontractor shall complete Section 1 of the Past Performance Questionnaire identified in Section J." However, Section J - Past Performance Questionnaire does not currently contain a 'Section 1'. Please clarify which section or sections that the offeror is required to complete.

**Answer:** This will be corrected in the RFP to be "Sections A and B".

**112. Reference L.9**

2. Each Offeror and any proposed major subcontractor shall send a blank Past Performance Questionnaire...The Offeror is responsible for ensuring that the respondent completes and submits the questionnaire directly to the NASA Ames Research Center Contracting Officer no later than 10 days prior to the proposal due date. 3. Each Offeror and major subcontractor shall provide NASA Ames Research Center Contracting Officer a list of contracts from whom Offerors have requested past performance information 20 days prior to proposal due date, via email to Sarah.M.Andrae@nasa.gov

**Question:** Section L.9(b).B.3 requires each offeror and major subcontractor to provide a list of contracts from whom Offerors have requested past performance information 20 days prior to proposal due date. Will the government consider requiring this list 10 days prior to proposal due date in accordance with when the past performance questionnaires are due to the government?

**Answer:** The Government requires the list to be provided 20 days prior to proposal due date.

**113. Reference L.9 (b) B.3. Reference Information; L.7 Proposal Page Limits**

This Paragraph requires that each Offeror and major subcontractor provide the NASA Ames Research Center Contracting Offer "a list of contracts from whom Offerors have requested past performance information 20 days prior to the proposal due date, via email..."

**Question:** Are these lists of contracts excluded from the Page Limit of 20 pages specified for Volume II in Paragraph L.7?

**Answer:** Offerors should email the list of contracts to the contracting officer. This would not be a part of the page limits.

**114. Reference L.9 (c) 1.f**

This Paragraph specifies that "For cost purposes, Major Subcontractors are defined as those subcontractors providing a total contract value (TCV) of \$1,000,000.00 for the five year inclusive effort." Since the projected workforce for the ISRDS 2 contract is anticipated to be comprised of fairly senior, highly technical/scientific personnel, even small subcontractors with a relatively low participation level will meet this threshold. For example, an HBCU at 0.5% of the TCV would total \$1.2M and thus meet the major subcontractor definition.

**Question:** We respectfully request that the Government consider raising this total contract value for defining Major Subcontractors for cost purposes to a total, five-year contract value of \$5,000,000.00.

**Answer:** Major Subcontractor as defined for Cost will be \$2M over 5 years. This will be corrected in the RFP.

**115. Reference L.9**

Section L.9(c) 1.3 requires that Volume III, Cost Proposal, compliance with FAR Clause 52.222-41, Service Contract Act. However, this Clause has not been incorporated into Section I; furthermore, no DOL Wage Determination Schedule(s) have been incorporated.

**Question:** Please verify if the requirement of this Clause applies?

**Answer:** The Service Contract Act does not apply. This will be corrected in the RFP.

**116. Reference L.9 (c) 1. Introduction page 94**

c) Cost Proposal (Volume III), 1.a., there is reference to "Core Requirements." In the DRAFT SOW [J.1(a), Attachment 1], page 3 of 17, the Core Requirements are defined as being elements contained in Sections 2.1 and 2.2 only

**Question:** Please confirm that there is no cost/price information to be provided as part of an offeror's proposal for Section 2.3, IDIQ Areas.

**Answer:** A sample staffing list will be provided for costing of Section 2.3, IDIQ Areas.

**117. Reference L.9 (c), Page 95**

**Question:** Request the Government provide their Internal Government Estimate (IGE) for staffing of the Contract Management Requirement and Technical Core Elements.

**Answer:** The IGE cannot be released as part of a competitive procurement. However, a sample staffing list will be provided for Core and IDIQ.

**118. Reference L.9 (c), Page 95**

**Question:** Request the Government provide historical staffing levels by Labor Category for the incumbent contract to level the playing field among all competitors and demonstrate the previous level of effort in support of the current contract.

**Answer:** Historical staffing levels will be provided by the Government.

**119. Reference L.9 (c), Page 95**

**Question:** For pricing purposes, recommend you provide specific dates (to include day of month) offerors should use for:

Contract Award	July 01, 2013
Phase-in Period Begins-	August 01, 2013
Contract Start	October 1, 2013

**Answer:** An approximate timeline was presented during the Industry Day slide set. This is only an estimated timeline which will be dependent on the overall procurement process.

**120. Reference L.9 (c) 3.a.2 Exhibit 2 Government Cost Model**

**Question:** In the Excel Pricing Model, Exhibit 2, Summary of Proposed Cost and Fixed Fee, we believe column G should read "Total Excluding Phase-in" instead of "Total Phase-in."

**Answer:** Column G of Exhibit 2 is already titled, "Total Excluding Phase-in."

**121. Reference L.9 (c) 3.4 Exhibit 4**

**Question:** Exhibit 4 "Summary of Elements of Cost - Contract Management" and Exhibit 5 "Summary of Elements of Cost - Core Technical Elements", both include a line item for Other Direct Cost (ODC). Will the Government provide an annual estimate of non-labor resources (NLRs) (e.g. travel, ODCs, and material) for accomplishing both the Contract Management Requirements and Technical Core elements to assist in determining the magnitude of the NLRs requirements?

**Answer:** The RFP will be revised to include a plug number of \$1,000,000 per year for ODCs for the Core Technical Elements. Offerors should propose the types and amounts of ODCs they consider necessary in performance of the Core Contract Management.

**122. Reference Government Cost Model Exhibit 5**

**Question:** In the Excel Pricing Model (ECM) Exhibit 5, Summary of Cost – Core Technical Elements, the direct labor costs on row 15 are pulling from Exhibit 8. We believe these costs should be pulling from Exhibit 9 as Exhibit 8 is for Contract Management and Exhibit 9 is for Core Technical Elements.

**Answer:** This will be corrected in the RFP.

**123. Reference L.9 (c) and Attachment J.1 (b) 2 Exhibit 18 Major Subcontractor**

A Major Subcontractor [for the cost volume] is defined as a subcontractor providing a total contract value of \$1,000,000 or more for the five year effort. This will mean that a subcontractor could be providing support at 1 or 2 WYEs and be required to submit a cost proposal for evaluation.

**Question:** Would the government consider revising this definition to say \$15M or \$20M rather than \$1M? If the definition is revised, do the instructions for Exhibit 18 also change?

**Answer:** Major Subcontractor as defined for Cost will be \$2M over 5 years. This will be corrected in the RFP.

**124. Reference L.9 (c) and J.1 (b) 2 Exhibit 13 Minor Subcontractor**

The Offeror is to complete Attachment 2 Exhibit 13 for minor subcontractors. The Exhibit includes examples of various companies, but all examples have a contract values greater than \$1M (i.e. major subcontractors).

**Question:** Are these examples correct, or should the definition of major subcontractor be revised?

**Answer:** The examples in Exhibit 13 are simply for illustrative purposes only. The definition of Major Subcontractor, for cost/price purposes remains as stated in the solicitation at L.9(c)(1)(f), which is now \$2M.

**125. Reference L.9 (c) 3.a.15, Exhibit 15, Personnel and Fringe Benefits Policies**

These Section L instructions for completing Exhibit 15 direct completion of the columns marked 'EXEMPT' and 'NON-EXEMPT'. However, there appears to be no instructions regarding how Offerors are to complete the column marked as 'Ref.'

**Question:** Please provide instructions for completing the column marked 'Ref.'

**Answer:** The Reference column (Ref.) should show the page number from the Offeror's Total Compensation Plan in the Mission Suitability Proposal where each of

the items in the Exhibit are discussed. The RFP will be revised to include these instructions for Exhibit 15.

**126. Reference L.9 (c) 6, PAGE 102 FIXED FEE**

*Submit the proposed fixed fee rate to be used on the contract. The fixed fee will be established by application of the proposed fixed fee rate to the estimated cost, not the actual cost, of the task. The proposed fixed fee rate will apply to all task orders and changes under the contract.*

**Question:** Recommend changing the language of this section to say that the fixed fee will also apply to the Core Requirements as well, not just the task orders.

**Answer:** This will be corrected in the RFP.

**127. Reference M.2.B.(a)B., DRAFT RFP p. 110.- Technical Understanding**

**Question:** Please confirm "Written Presentation", should be "Written Proposal".

**Answer:** This will be corrected in the RFP.

**128. Reference SOW Introduction**

The Intelligent Systems Division...is part of the Exploration Technology Directorate (Code T) at the NASA Ames Research Center....

**Question:** In previous SOW Section 1 last sentence of last paragraph has been removed... Does this mean all the work will be done at NASA Ames? Or will work be done at other locations? What other locations might work be done?

**Answer:** Other locations will be identified within the CORE or per IDIQ, but will mainly be to support field test or delivery of system.

**129. Reference SOW Introduction**

**Question:** Will all work at remote sites be part of the Core or the IDIQ part of the contract?

**Answer:** Other locations will be identified within the CORE or per IDIQ, but will mainly be to support field test or delivery of system.

**130. Reference STATEMENT OF WORK 1.0 PAGE 3**

*Laboratories are operated by Code TI for many of the scientific and engineering disciplines under the purview of the Division.*

**Question:** How many laboratories are operated by Code TI and what is each of their functional capability? Will the contractor be responsible for the operation and maintenance of each of the labs?

**Answer:** There are approximately 11 laboratories. The laboratories are operated under a specific technical area and the requirements for the lab are defined by the technical area and implementation performed as a collaboration between the technical area POC and the Division's core operational support (See SOW Section 2.1.3).

**131. Reference SOW 2.1.1(3)**

Reads the Contractor shall "Provide secretarial and financial services for their employees".

**Question:** Please clarify to what support "financial services" refers; if possible please provide examples of the type of financial services that are to be provided to employees.

**Answer:** Financial services pertain to the Offeror's corporate/business requirements in support of their employees.

**132. Reference STATEMENT OF WORK 2.1.3 CORE OPERATIONAL SUPPORT, PAGE 5**

*Provide computing environment for the technical research identified in Section 2.2.*

*Support will include design, implementation and management of the Division research IT infrastructure. The Contractor must provide a comprehensive, fully integrated heterogeneous computing environment for the scientific research community.*

**Question:** What is currently the IT Infrastructure in use on the contract? Will the current IT Infrastructure be transitioned to the new contractor? Is there currently a "help desk"? If so, what level of support is required? Will the contractor be responsible for purchasing IT hardware or software to support the contract IT Infrastructure?

**Answer:** The Division supports servers and clients (desktops/laptops) with various operating systems including Mac OS 10.6 thru 10.8, Redhat Linux, and Windows 7. The servers support all of the research within the Division. This support will be transitioned to the new contract and does include a help desk. Purchases are not usually done on the contract, but there have been exceptions.

**133. Reference SOW 5.0 Phase-In/Phase-Out**

(a) Phase-In ... (b) Phase-Out...

**Question:** Phase in/out is costed as FFP in Section 5 of PWS. It is costed CPFF in the previous draft RFP. Which is correct?

**Answer:** Current RFP is correct with FFP.

**134. Reference SOW 5.0 Phase-In/Phase-Out**

(a) Phase-In ... (b) Phase-Out...

**Question:** Is it NASA's intent to have 60 days of overlap with current contract? On previous RFPs, there was a 30-day phase-in: what is the rationale for a change to 60 days?

**Answer:** It is the Government's intent to have a 60-day overlapping phase-in.

**135. Reference SOW 5.0 Phase-In/Phase-Out**

a) (4) (ii) Perform all activities described in the Contractor's phase-in plan submitted....

**Question:** Government makes reference to security clearances in Phase-In portion of the SOW. Would the Government clarify the security clearance requirements as mentioned in this section?

**Answer:** Basic security clearance requirement is related to the badging process.

**136. Reference ISRDS RFI (March 2012)**

**Question:** In the first SOW of the ISRDS contract, there was a clear demand for Soft Computing, Fuzzy Control, Computational Intelligence (CI). However, CI was deleted in the latest draft Statement of Work. Can you please explain why this decision was made?

**Answer:** The requirements listed in the RFI were based on the previous SOW. In the draft RFP, the technologies were updated to reflect existing research and technical competence.

137. **Question:** How many current CTOs are currently on the ISRDS contract?  
**Answer:** There are approximately 50 tasks orders.
138. **Question:** How many RFI responses did you receive from industry for ISRDS-2?  
**Answer:** The Government cannot disclose this information.
139. **Question:** Please clarify the type and extent of "off-site" work under ISRDS-2?  
**Answer:** Other locations include field test support and site visits to collaborators and other NASA Centers.
140. **Question:** Please clarify the security clearance requirements (beyond those required for a NASA badge) under ISRDS-2?  
**Answer:** Basic security clearance requirement is related to the badging process.
141. **Question:** Under previous ISRDS contracts, the Phase-In period was 30 days. Why is the specified Phase-In for ISRDS-2 60 days?  
**Answer:** The length of phase-in is left to the discretion of the Government. For this procurement, the Government decided a 60-day phase-in would be suitable.
142. **Question:** How many total students / interns does Code TI host annually?  
**Answer:** Approximately 40.
143. **Question:** How many students / interns are brought into Code TI under the current ISRDS contract?  
**Answer:** Approximately 25.
144. **Question:** Under what other procurement vehicles, i.e., other than ISRDS, are these students brought into the Division?  
**Answer:** Division has used the Education Associates Program and NASA's One Stop Shopping Initiative (OSSI).
145. **Reference Pages 4 – 5, and page 12 of J.1(a) Attachment**  
**Question:** Please confirm that industry responses to requirements enumerated in Sections 2.1, 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 3.0, 4.0, and 5.0, are part of the Oral Presentation, and therefore do not need to be duplicated in the 80-page written proposal?  
**Answer:** The material to be addressed in Orals can be found in L.9 (a) A.
146. **Reference General**  
**Question:** Will there be an online reference library established for this procurement?  
**Answer:** All relevant material pertaining to the procurement can be found on Federal Business Opportunities (FBO) and NASA Business Opportunities.

**147. Reference General**

**Question:** Please provide the existing Task Orders issued on the ISRDS-1 contract to allow offerors an opportunity to see current work being performed.

**Answer:** The Government will not provide this information; however, it will provide historical information for Core and IDIQ requirements.